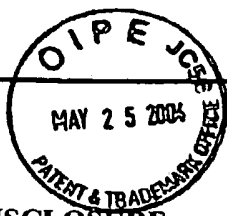


Form PTO-1449

US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/645,182
Filing Date	August 21, 2003
First Named Inventor	Toshikazu HIROTA
Art Unit	1723
Examiner Name	Drodge, Joseph W.
Confirmation No.	7053
Attorney Docket No.	791_069 CON

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Our Docket No.	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
JWD	5,933,170	08/03/1999	Takeuchi et al.				01/02/1997
JWD	5,889,351	03/30/1999	Okumura et al.				11/20/1995
JWD	5,374,521	12/20/1994	Kipling et al.				09/17/1991

U.S. COPENDING APPLICATIONS

Exam. Initial	Application/ Publication Number	Filing/ Publication Date	Inventor Name	Our Docket No.	Class	Sub Class
JWD	US2003/0211633	11/13/2003	Hirota et al.	789_069 DIV		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation	Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages etc.)

JWD	Advanced Ceramics, Structural Ceramics, pp. 1-5 (Kirk-Othmer Encyclopedia of Chemical Technology, copyright 1991, John Wiley & Sons, Inc.)
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Examiner:	Joseph Drodge	Date Considered:	10-20-2004
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

*In accordance with the Notice dated July 11, 2003 on the PTO website, we are not enclosing copies of any of the above U.S. references.